Wrecking of the Maine Was Probably Intentional.

ALL THE EVIDENCE POINTS THAT WAY

Naval Court of Inquiry Said to Be Convinced.

is Intact.

TORPEDO MIGHT HAVE DONE THE WORK

This, with the Assistance of the Saluting Powder, it is Believed by Many, Destroyed the a_ Battleship.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) HAVANA, Feb. 25 .- (New York World Cablegram-Special Telegram.)-The naval court of inquiry is completely satisfied now by the evidence of divers in regard to the origin of the explosion which destroyed the Maine. The divers went down into the wreck this morning again and got evidence to confirm the suspicions aroused by the findings of yesterday. The court may not leave for Key West for a day or two, as it has found

many more witnesses to examine. Hitherto the pavy divers have been at work for the purposes of the investigation. From now on the wrecking steamer Right Arm will proceed vigorously with its task. Its divers were busy today down forward. It is expected that all the remaining bodies will be recovered within three days. Lieutenant Commander Walnwright has charge of the work. Gunner Charles Morgan, the warrant officer of the Cruiser Newark, probably will directly overlook the divers. Chief Gunner's Mate Olsen of the battleship Iowa is doing splendid work. The officers say they

never have seen a better diver than he. Poor Holzer was the man who, dying in horrible agony, said to Captain Sigsbee: "Captain, I am sorry I can't shake hands with you." His bands were swathed in bandages. "I am sorry you've lost your ship and your comrades." He ought to have a monu-

DONE BY A TORPEDO. Yesterday's disclosures of the divers prove finally a full international fact, that the pedo. The heard of investigation has ceased investigating the remains of the forward magazine. The members are satisfied that gine twenty-five tons of powder intact, while said: "Absurd."

true that no explosives aboard the ship could, unaided, have so mangled and blown away and broken in two the battleship Maine, Something else must have done it. Naval experts say a big torpedo placed under the port side of the bottom just next Havana. To tell the truth, we are just going to the reserve magazine would easily have caused the observed damage if it were assisted by the 2,000 pounds of the quick burning saluting powder known to have been in the reserve magazine. It is not likely that mines exist inside the closed Havana harbor, nor likely that, if known to the government, a mine would be placed

have exploded. And it is just as awfully

in the position most seldom occupied by ship anchored to the buoy as is the Maine's position. It is most likely that if such mine had been built it would have been hadly out of order, like most Spanish naval affairs, if, indeed, it had ever contained explosives for which the Spanish government paid. ROTTOM BLOWN UPWARDS.

As was cabled, one of the Maine's bottom plates has been blown from left to right and upwards. Originally it was under water on the port side about opposite the forward turret. It now protrudes four feet out of water, fifteen feet inside the proper line of contour of the vessel, as is shown by the undamaged rear two-thirds. The Maine's bottom plates were painted, I am informed, with McGuinnes' green anti-fouling paint. This plate is thus painted on its port side. On its other side it is plastered with the cement only used in the Maine on the inside of the bottom plates. The cement is gathered thick in the corners of the angle irons on the starboard side of the plate.

This would be sufficient proof even with out the divers' magazine discovery, or the ten-inch shells thrown toward the starboard side; or the main deck being doubled back to starboard and port; or the living men who slept near the big magazine; or the dead bodies near it mangled; or the forthe coment hurled aboard the Washington; cabled. Anyone was indicative; all together are stunningly convincing.

The forward magazine did not explode which alone of all the explosives placed National Guard be put in readiness for aboard could do the demage. And a torpedo or a mine under the port side of the Maine's bottom did explode, as is shown by half a dozen witnesses who testify to hearing a double report. And that, with the acsistance of the saluting powder, blew up the Maine and killed its crew. Who did it? SYLVESTER SCOVEL

WORK OF THE BOARD OF INQUIRY

Members Put in Another Day Taking Testimony. HAVANA, Feb. 25 .- The wreck of the Maine is slowly but surely sinking into the mud. Before the wreck could be raised it would be necessary to move the guns and deck debris. For lack of practical applionces nothing in this line has been accomsalvage thus far has been nitiably small. The cloudy weather rendered the work of

recovered in the forward batches. The court of inquiry sat longer than usual today, the six divers being examined more in detail than heretofore. The time of de parture of the Mangrove with the court for Key West has not been determined. Captain Sampson said it was doubtful whether his vessel would sail tomorrow, that all depended on the developments of the testimony. The Spanish cruiser Alfonso XII has been

towed to a bouy further within the barbor

of the divers today difficult. Little was done.

It is hoped that a number of bodies will be

At the afternoon session the examination of divers was continued. A civilian whose was examined. The name of the witnesses and all particulars are withheld.

Late today the paymaster's safe with \$22,-500 and his papers was taken from the wreck. Beyond this no statement is made as to the value and nature of the contents. The complaint is still made that the elec-

tric lamp is of little use to the divers. So far as reports made public go the workmen on the tug Right Arm, with the assistance of the naval divers, are laboring hard SHIP'S BOTTOM PLATES BLOWN UPWARD to recover the bodies under the hatch which led to the fire room platforms. Shoring with timbers was necessary and the divers had to Considered Certain that Forward Magazine wait for the lumber today. It is hoped the bodies will be taken out tomorrow.

The Havana papers print long extracts delayed news. The Americans are anxiously awaiting the arrival of tomorrow's mail.

Consul General Lee says he has received no news of importance from the State department por has he been notified to expect the arrival of any one of prominence.

At 6 o'clock this evening, when this disthan he was this morning, but is very low. arise in removing them to the United States, there was something of substance to war- York. for all have been exposed to contagious fevers and the quarantine laws forbid their being taken direct to Key West. These Olivette the day after the explosion, but only because of the extreme exigencies of the

MORE DIVERS LEAVE FOR HAVANA. Consular Agent Yznaga Returns to

Guard His Family. KEY WEST, Fla., Feb. 25 .- On the steamer Mascotte, from Tampa for Havana, this evening were Captain Everett and John Hagerty, divers of the Merritt & Chapman Wrecking company, who are going to work on the Maine. They take with them two assistants and a large quantity of wrecking machinery.

Carlos Yznaga, United States consular agent at Trinidad de Cuba, is also a passenger. He left two months ago on a three months' visit, but is now hurrying home to protect his wife and children at Trinidad, as he fears the Spaniards there will provoke a riot. After consultation with Consul General Lee Mr. Yznaga will decide whether to take his family from Cuba.

The Mascotte replaces the steamer Olivette, while the latter is laid up tempo-Maine was blown up February 15 by an rarily for repairs. Out of the seventy pasoutside explosion, probably, of a large tor- sengers from Tampa only about a dozen went on to Havana. Traffic is all the other cavigation bureau, who saved a full day by way now.

Senator Proctor is among the Mascotte's it did not explode. From the first glance passengers. Before sailing he was shown a everything has pointed that way. It is dispatch published here saying that there known now that the divers found under the is considerable excitement at Havana over flooring of the big forward starboard maga- his expected visit. He read it, laughed, and

the sides were not completely destroyed. It In reply to a request for a detailed stateis an absolute impossibility that a part of ment regarding his visit Senator Proctor

its 180 powder-filled cylinders should not said: "It's all simple and straight as day. I've been to Havana several times before, and have many friends there. I've been fishing several days in Florida with Colonel Parker, a business man of Washington and a friend of mine, and we have decided to go over to over there to see what's going on, to be where the excitement is. Doesn't everybody want to go there? Don't you? There is not a bit of political significance about it. I may stay in Havana a day or a week.

havn't the remotest idea how long." Commander Clifford H West chief Admiral Sicard's staff, also sailed on the Mascotte. When asked the purpose of his visit to Havana he replied: "I cannot say anything for publication."

BRYAN'S OPINION OF MAINE AFFAIR

Thinks the Government Should Go Slow About Provoking War. TOPEKA, Feb. 25 .- William J. Bryan, who was the principal speaker at the banquet of the democratic club in this city last night was interviewed by a State Journal reporter today concerning the Maine affair: "In my opinion, we should be slow to act

in the Maine affair, especially under the "Another fact which in my mind imofficial investigation of the explosion is now being made. The United States cannot afford to be too hasty in this matter. International questions are involved and it would be a sad compliment to our government were we to openly and maliciously bring about strained relations by our anxiety to locate the responsibility of the Maine disester. Nothing should be done until the investigation is concluded."

GETTING SEA BATTERY IN ORDER. This is Said to Be Customary at This

Time of the Year TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 25.-Men bave been put to work replacing the sea batteries at ward funnel thrown to eight and rear; or Sea Girt in order for service. At the quarteror any other of the many proofs already this has any significance, as this work is partment in Cuba, and color was lent to this usual at this time of year. Captain Armthat no orders have been received asking the military service. The circular of the Navy department in asking for an inspection of the Montgomery from the West Indies. The vescels which might be of use in case of eral's office. Adjutant General Stryker 's that he had been in Domingo. He had gone in Washington. In his office it is said his Wachington trip is purely a personal one, end is in no way connected with military

PERFECT DISCIPLINE ON THE MAINE

No Carclessness Could Have Caused

the Explosion. NEW YORK, Feb. 25 .- A dispatch to the Tribune from Havana says: Captain Sampson's naval board has been able to gain the fullest information showing that an accident through lack of discipline was impossible plished. Aside from the officers' cabin the This branch of the inquiry brings out that the officers and crew of the Maine were under the strictest discipline, because, al- it will remain in that place, which is one of though on the surface the visit of the Maine was friendly. Captain Sigsbee had taken least until the monitor Puritan is ready to While the divers' examinations show that as big as the Terror, being a 6,000-ton vessel, some of the smaller magazines may have very little less than the Maine in size. It mesazine was not exploded seems to have been conclusively established.

Reports Maine Relief Bill. WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 .- The house committee on naval affairs today agreed on the its great breadth and light draft it is so been universally endorsed. The party leaves Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota; Boulelle Maine relief bill, reporting it favorte make room for the Viscays, which is ex- ably to the house.

testimony is said to be of some importance Gives No Heed to the Many Sensational Rumors from Havana.

ADHERES TO ITS POLICY OF WAITING Dext month.

Cabinet Meeting is Devoted to the Maine Disnster, but No Conclusino is Reached Other Than that Already Announced.

WASHINGTON, Fob. 25,-In spite of the stress that came from unofficial sources in the Maine's bull, the administration refrom the American dailies, but of course only mains firm in its statement that there is no creditable evidence one way or the other as to the cause of the disaster, and holds to

rant it. The Spanish legation was equally in the dark as to any of the discoveries reported ant Secretary Rocsevelt, who has general regulations were disregarded in the case of from sources that are not cited, as was shown supervision of the naval militia of the counthe first lot of wounded taken there on the by the message from Captain General Blanco.

Secretary Long has been under heavy and had not been formally referred to the Navy almost constant strain ever since he was department by congress, and the officials conawakened in the middle of the night a week ago last Tuesday by the news of the loss garding its provisions. The boats provided of the Maine, and now that matters are, at least for the time being, in a quieter state, he has withdrawn from the Navy department and gone away for a few days' rest, leaving Assistant Secretary Roosevelt to manage the department.

ROOSEVELT IN CHARGE.

date of its departure for Havana, if it is to forms, etc. go at all, is conjectured. The chip went to Tampa instead of Key West on its return from San Domingo in order to facilitate the speedy return to his duties in Washington of Captain Crowinshield, the chief of the

the movement. The Castine, the second of the United States war ships on the south Atlantic station, arrived today at Barbadoes, where it Castine will go to Martinique to be docked, service.

the court of inquiry, it may be interesting to cause of the Maine disaster. lote that so far Secretary Long himself does point. He rather expected that the court, which has complete power to work on its own lines, would wind up its work at Havana before leaving, so as to avoid the necessity for a return trip.

QUIETER FEELING.

Undoubtedly there is a quiete feeling manifested at the Navy de partment over the Maine affair as time passes. This is the tenth day since the war ship was destroyed but the officers are willing to wait in patience until the facts relating to the explosion are fully developed. There are fully on their guard against the acceptance of unauthorized statements of the conditions at Havana and the daily developments, being aware of the efficiency of the precautions adopted by the court of inquiry to prevent the premature disclosure of the proceedings. Therefore the been demonstrated to be of exterior origin by the discovery of the upheaved double bottom of the Maine did not cause much of a stir because the officials could not contrying circumstances which confront us," he ceive that the alert members of the court of inquiry and their assistants in Havana pels us to exercise discretion is that the had overlooked a fact so important as this nothwithstanding it must have been perfectly apparent for the past week to any one wh came near the wreck in case it is true.

CRONINSHIELD TAKES CHARGE Captain Croninshield turned up at the Navy department today and took the helm in the Bureau of Navigation, relieving Captain Dickens, who has distinguished himself and earned the thanks of the secretary for the untiring vigilance with which he has managed all of the Maine matters that have fallen upon the Navigation bureau, and of the newspaper men for the patience and frankness with which he has met their many inquiries.

Captain Croninshield's absence has been made the basis for the conjecture that he moster's office it was denied, however, that has been on secret service for the Navy de impression by the fact that it was not posstrong, chief clerk of this department, says sible until a late hour yesterday to secure from any of the officials a statement of the nature of his business in the south, for i was known that he had arrived in Tampa or officer himself was not very communicative war, has been received by the adjutant gen- as to the details of his trip, but he did say there on the Brooklyn with his con when the ship started for St. Thomas. While in San Domingo he received news of the disaster to the Maine, and took advantage of the opportunity presented by the appearance in San Domingo of the cruiser Mostgomery to make his way back to the United States and to

NO WORD FROM HAVANA. There was no word from either Captain sigsbee or Consul General Lee this morning at the Navy or State departments. The monitor Terror is lying in Hampton Roads, and it is said at the Navy department that it has no orders as yet. The impression is that great strategic value in case of need, at proper precaution against hostile action. take its place. The Puritan is almost twice altogether the most formidable double-turreted monitor in the world in smooth water. This qualification does not mean that it is unable to keep the sea, but only that from

DEED OF DIABOLISM pected here tomorrow or next day from the ADMINISTRATION IS FIRM seaway. It is now having new furnaces fitted OPEN THE SUPPLY DEPOT crowns of the furnaces having come down ome time ago, owing to the fact that the bollers are the same that were built for it when it was originally laid down many years

ago. It is said at the Navy department that it will be ready for service about the 4th of Captain Sigebee asked vesterday whether he should endeavor to save the old material in the superstructure of the Maine, which from the pictures appears to be heaped over

the boller spaces. He has been told to let

this go, as it is valuable only as old iron,

which would not pay to bring back to the states.

BOOM THE NAVAL MILITIA. A delegation from the Naval Militia asso Havana as to sensational developments in ciation of the United States was at the Navy connection with the work of the divers in department today. The visit from the members, however, was not in response to any request sent out by the department, as represented, but was preliminary to a visit to the capitol, where they are to be given a its purpose to await the conclusion of the hearing by the Barber bill committee to investigation now making by the court of increase the appropriation for boats designed inquiry. This position was emphasized at for the militia. The delegation consisted Omaha, as provided in the act creating a today's cabinet meeting. People who looked of Lieutenant Blount of Baltimore, Comfor some startling announcement were dis- mander E. G. Buckland of the Connecticut patch is sent, Holzer is still sleeping under appointed, as the members, without reser- militia, Commander Isaac E. Emerson of the the influence of an opiate. He is no worse vation, frankly admitted that the subject of Maryland militia, Captain J. W. Miller, comthe loss of the Maine had been discussed, but manding the New York militia and presi-Including him there were six wounded left said the government had received no infor- dent of the association; Lieutenant Ralph here, and all are reseonably certain of re- mation from Havana since yesterday and Fuller of Cleveland, O., and Captain H. L. covery except him. Some difficulty will had no intentions of changing its policy until Saterlee, on the staff of the governor of New

While at the Navy department the delega-

tion had a pleasant interview with Assisttry, and with whom the provisions of the bill were discussed. The measure, however, sequently have not given their opinion refor in the bill are to be of about 150 tons displacement, to have a speed of not less than twenty-five knots and are to including armament, not exceeding \$2,500,000. Six of the boats, the bill provides, are to be built on the Pacific coast. When completed they The latter has been thoroughly advised at | are to be stationed at the principal ports at every step of the secretary's policy of treat- which naval militia organizations exist and ment of the Maine affair, so that there is not to be manned by skeleton crews from the likely to be any change in that respect caused | United States naval establishment ready for by the temporary assumption of the duties the full complement of officers and men to of secretary by Mr. Roosevelt. Just before be filled out from the militia when drill the department closed he had word of the or other occasion requires. The delegation sailing of the cruiser Montgomery from also desires to urge on congress greater lib-Tampa for Key West. Up to that time the crality in appropriations for the naval mivessel had been given no orders, so that the litta, so that it may be furnished with uni-

DISPATCH FROM BLANCO. At the Spanish legation a dispatch was received from General Blanco referring to ommercial questions, and mentioning inidentally that no change of any kind has ecurred in affairs at Havana, General Blanco's latter statement is believed at the department to refer to the lack of definite and trustworthy news pending the private and the Missouri river will be absorbed inquiries now being prosecuted by the Amerijoined the Cincinnati. It may be that the can authorities. In view of this attitude of those whose official position gives them the as it is in need of cleaning after its tropical best opportunity for full information, Senor du Bose and his associates do not credit the Since so much depends upon the report of reports of discoveries tending to prove the

The commercial negotiations have not know when to expect this important lost sight of during recent events, but the document, up to this time having heard authorities at Havana are hopeful that these nothing from any of the members on this may be expedited at an early day. The Cuban commissioner, who has been named to treat on the matter, probably will come to Washington before long, although some delay of necessity will occur, on account of the more pressing questions which have come up of late.

MAKES EAST RIVER IMPREGNABLE. Skirmish Line of Torpedoes May B

Placed Across the Channel. NEW YORK, Feb. 25 .- The Brooklyn Eagle today said: "At Willets point precaution is being taken to make the East river entrance to New York invulnerable. A so-called skir. mish line of torpedoes is projected across the channel to Fort Schuyler. The torpedoes will be anchored so close together that it may be made impossible for a hostile vessel to cross the line without being blown up. The torpedoes will be connected with published statement that the explosion has electric wires, and to make doubly sure that their plans cannot be frustrated the engineers have arranged to have batteries located at each end of the line so that in case an apparatus was used by the enemy to sever the connecting wires and break the circuit the torpedoes could still be exploded from either end. The channel is already protected from the Willets Point shore to the center of the channel by two groups of sub morine mines. Each group consists of twenty-two torpedoes, the forty-four together

containing 120 pounds of giant powder. "At Fort Schuyler, directly opposite Willets Point, considerable engineering work has been done. A torpedo magazine and experimenting gallery was recently completed. It is considered the strongest magazine on any United States fortification."

BOOMERS ARE HOMEWARD BOUND

frip for Exploiting the Omaha Exposition About Ended.

MEMPHIS, Feb. 25 .- (Special Telegram.) The pilgrimage of the delegation of western business men practically terminated today Its conclusion was marked by several features of unusual interest. The tourists were tendered a reception at the Merchants Exchange. President W. F. Brodie welcomed them in a most cordial manner. The Hon. W. O. Graves, ex-president of the exchange made a few felicitous remarks, eliciting from Messrs. Cornish and Rev. S. Wright Butler fitting replies. Taking the trolley cars in Font of the custom house the party were piloted out to the beautiful club house of the Montgomery Park Jockey club. Here an elegant lunch was served followed by the presentation on behalf of the delegation through the Hon, H. R. Corbett of valuable and appropriate presents to Chairman Green, Mr. Cornish, Rev. Butler and Mr. Hardy, the press representative of the exposition. The people of Memphis are in hearty sympathy with the idea of a grand exposition of western and southern industries and in-

At Baton Rouge the delegation were met at the depot by a committee of citizens, headed by Mayor Wax and forming a line marched through the principal streets to the states included in the Eighth and Ninth cirmusic of an excellent band, dining at the Marer House, whence they marched to the pavilion of the State university where Prosident Boyd expressed the pleasure of the exploded, the fact that the main ten-lock carries twelve-inch guns in its turrets people of the capital city in receiving the overcrowded condition of the dockets in against ten-inch guns for the Terror, and is guests who had come to exploit the great northwest and its magnificent exposition. Throughout the journey the delegation has received just such kindly treatment and the great object for which it was organized has Washington; the Tenth, Minnesota, Iowa, susceptible to the wave motion that it is here tonight for Kansas City, arriving at the Eleventh. Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, difficult to do good work with its guns in a Omaha Sunday moraling.

May 1 is the Date Unless Existing Conditions Change.

MERCER BRACES CCMMISSIONER JONES

Omaha's Hustling Congressman Doc Some Good Hustling in Behalf of the Interests of the Gate City.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 .- (Special Telegram.)-Omaha's new Indian supply depot will be opened by May 1 if conditions as at present existing do not materially change. Secretary Bliss has sent with his favorable 10. Bits of F endorsement to Commissioner of Indian Affairs Jones, resolutions and the tender of building rent free by the city council of supply depot at that city. As a result of this tender, Congressman Mercer today had a long interview with Commissioner Jones relative to the manner in which the depot was to be opened and what was required on the part of the government to install the same. The whole subject of the supply depot was gone over, but the rather startling information was conveyed to Mercer that the department was out of money even to keep up supply depots at New York and Chicago. and that a deficiency was about to be created on account of the rather parsimonious manner in which congress had treated this branch of the government. In the event that a deficiency exists it will be necessary to ask for an additional appropriation in the general deficiency bill, which the commis-

sioner has now under consideration. Secretary Bliss' recommendation that th depot be established as contemplated by the act, went far toward bracing up Commis sloner Jones, and he finally said he would scratch about among the various funds to find sufficient money to open the depot before the opening of the Omaha Exposition Mercer then suggested that as Jones con templated going to Chicago within a fort night, he extend his trip to Omaha, mee the business people and after examining the building selected for warehouse purposes he could better know just what was needed. This suggestion met with favor.

OPEN BIDS IN OMAHA. The commissioner further said that when ever possible he would open bids in Omaha although New York stands in the way o very much accomplishment along these lines and that it may be as well known by merchants of Omaha intending to become bidders for supplies that they base their bids on delivery at Omaba, from which Indians will be supplied. In this way freight between New York and Chicago and Chicago which will give the merchants of the Gate City a decided advantage over bidders to the eastward of Omaha. For this reason the Nebraska delegation voted in favor of the supply depot at the Missouri river. All blds must be accompanied by samples of goods to be delivered, and, therefore, great care

It is understood that Senator Carter of Montana is in receipt of letters from constituents of his objecting to bids being based on delivery at Chicago and New York and especially are objections made by firms in terested in breadstuffs. Of course this was a gentle hint to Senator Carter to attempt the establishment of the Indian depot at Helena but the Indian office believes that with Omaha equipped with a warehouse the without any additional depot. It was suggested at the Indian office to Senator Carter that he have his constituents bid on supplies for delivery at Omaha, which would lessen the hauf by 500 miles at least. It is the belief of those in charge of supply stations that Omaha is admirably situated to reach a larger number of Indians and at a lees cost to the government than any other station in the country and that whenever pos sible, bidders will be asked to deliver a

INDIAN CONGRESS. Chalrman Sherman of the Indian affaire committee, who is now in the south, expects to join the committee at Baltimore next Tuesday and accompany the delegation to Carlisle, Pa., on an investigation of that school. This will probably interfere with the reporting of the Indian bill to the house be fore Friday or Saturday of next week, and postpones that much longer action on the Indian congress amendment.

The senate committee on Indian affairs will take up for consideration at its next meeting the bill introduced by Senator Allen providing for the establishment of wagon and cattle trails over Indian reservations. It is expected that an adverse report will be made

by the committee, Indian Commissioner Jones has returned awarded the contract for supplying 400 stirring plows at \$5.60 apiece to the Sioux Indians of South Dakota to Fuller & Johnson, Madison, Wis.; also a contract to Bradley & Co. of Chicago to furnish the Sloux with breaking plows and harrows at \$5.90 apiece. The commissioner will visit Chicago March , when the contracts for furnishing wagons, horses and cattle to the Sioux will be let The removal of the United States land of fice from Rapid City to Deadwood will soon be decided by Commissioner Herrmann

decision will be against removal. The secretary of the interior today affirmed the decision of the land commissioner in the case of Leslie D. Rucker against Thomas Grimsby, involving lands in the Alliance (Neb.) land district.

probably next week, and it is though hi

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS.

Senator Thurston, during the early part of the first session of the present congress, introduced a bill providing that the judicial districts of the United States be divided into eleven districts instead of nine, as at present, the change occurring in districts west of the Mississippi river, as there seems to be great and pressing necessity for this relief. He today sent letters to forty senators representing the cuits to meet in conference in the room of the committee on territories next Wednesday at 10:30 o'clock to agree, if possible upon some bill that will relieve the present those circuits. Thurston's bill contemplates making the Eighth circuit comprise the states of Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas; the Ninth, California, Oregon, Nevada and Montana and Idaho.

THE BEE BULLETIN.

Weather Forecast for Nebraska-Threatening; Warmer, Southerly Winds, Page. 1. Theories About the Maine Wreck, Administration Not Scared by Alarmists.

Spanish Securities Take a Tumble. 2. Pointers on the Indemnity Question. Attack on Sundry Civil Bill,

Money for Missions.

Supply Depot to Open May 1.

3. Nebraska News. Tommy Ryan W 4. Editorial and Crast.
5. Extra Fares for Ministers Oppor Solar Opening.
6. Council Bings Solar Matters.

Iowa Legislat Decedings.

7. General New Business Rev 5 the Week.
8. Bartley Bor 5 Case with the Jury. Workman His Death.

Elitch-Moores Case. 9. Evidence e Gossip.

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Fatal Results of an Early Fire at Charleston. short while in Church street this morning. were rushed out without any damage. Somebody yelled that a family of women were top story the life saving work was stopped by the flames, which seemed to be playing over the entire building. Screams from the dving women were heard and Officer Bagby rushed in and pulled out three charred bodies. The quick work of the fire department checked the fire and it was soon under

third floor had been lost. The dead are: MRS. REBECCA KNICKMEYER.

control, but not until nine lives on the

ALBERT O'NEAL. CASWELL W. O'NEAL.

JOSEPHINE KNICKMEYER, 7 years old. KATIE KNICKMEYER, 16 years old. LEONORA KNICKMEYER, 9 years old. FRANCIS KNICKMEYER, 3 years old. LILLIE KNICYMEYER, 3 years old.

A BABY of Mrs. Knickmeyer, 1 month old.

SOUTH DAKOTA GETTING INTO LINE.

MITCHELL, S. D., Feb. 25.—(Special Telebe exercised in the selection of gram.)-The entire committee appointed by samples, as government experts pass on all Governor Lee for the east half of South Dakota, which will assume charge of South Dakota's productions at the the Omeha exposition was unable to be present at the meeting held here last night and today Mersrs, S. W. Narregang, Aberdeen; Hans Murphy, Elk Point, and Hugh Smith, Howard, were the only ones here. The committee passed a resolution that South Dakota should have an exhibit at the Omaha exposition and from that standpoint several ideawere evolved as to the best plan for raising whole country can be thoroughly supplied the money to defray the expenses. The following plan was adopted as one likely to become the most popular in all parts this

side of the river: The commissioners of each county are to be requested to appropriate a sum of money equal to 20 cents for each voter in the county according to the election of 1896, which would mean an appropriation of about \$300 for Davidson county.

The committee perfected an organization for this part of the state with the following officers: Governor A. E. Lee, president: 8 W. Narregang of Aberdeen, vice president Hans Murphy of Elk Point, secretary; C. A. Jewett of Sloux Falls, treasurer. The committee figures that it will require at least \$10,000 to pay the expenses of the exhibit. About 500 square feet of ground has been donated by the exposition company free of charge, but it will be insufficient for the state's exhibit and additional space will cost about \$1,200.

It is the intention of the committee to visit as many countles as possible and organize a local board therein, which will look after the money matters and the exhibits Resolutions were also passed outlining the duties of secretary and treasurer as to the receipt and expenditure of money.

Messrs, Narregang, Murphy and Hugh Smith met with a goodly number of busifrom Chicago. The commissioner has ness men this morning to look over the proposition of Davidson county coming into line Mr. Narregang explained the object and the plan on which the committee expected to carry on its work. A local organization was formed with the following officers: Frank Weller, president; Louis Beckwith, vice president; J. K. Smith, secretary, and N. L. Davison, treasurer.

WILL CALL IT WILLARD TEMPLE.

Women Appeal for Funds to Complete the Structure. CHICAGO, Feb. 25.-At a meeting of the Woman's Temple toustees in this city today resolutions were adopted appealing to the general public of the country for assistance in raising the debt which hangs over the Woman's Christian Temperance Union building. The trustees resolved that when they had secured for the National Woman's Christian Temperance union the capital stock of the temple the building should be rechristened "Willard Temple," as a monument to Miss Frances E. Willard.

The resolutions ask the newspapers of the country to present the appeal to their readers through the columns of the papers, to receive and acknowledge subscriptions for the fund to free the temple from debt, the fund to be paid to the treasurer of the board of temple trustees, G. B. Shaw, president of the American Trust and Savings bank, Chi- Railronders Deny War Preparations

Major Dick Pays the Bill. COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 25.-The Ohlo senate

telephone company with regard to calls The only new development was that phone were secured.

PESSIMISTIC

Madrid Newspapers Take Dark View of Situation.

CAUSE STOCKS TO TAKE A TUMBLE

Securities Decline and Rates of Exchange Co Skyward.

CUBAN BONDS ARE CHIEFLY DEPRESSED

Produced by Alarm'st Rumors Concerning Maine Investigation.

BERNABE AND WOODFORD ARE CHUMMY

American Minister Talks of Peace and Predicts a Hearty Welcome for . Polo at the American T Capital,

(Copyright, 1998, by Press Publishing Company.) MADRID, Feb. 25 .- (New York World Cablegram-Special Telegram.)-The pessi-NINE PERSONS BURNED TO DEATH. mistic campaign of the leading Madrid papers has produced considerable alarm in the stock markets, causing the cash sales to CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 26 .- Nine lives overpower the efforts of the syndicates to were lost in a fearful fire which raged for a keep up quotations for account. All securities declined today and the rates of ex-At 2:10 a policeman on duty noticed big change were the highest on record. Cuban sparks flying from the tenement house at bonds are chiefly depressed, the scare being No. 160 Church street. The officer found attributed to the alarmist rumors concernthat a blaze was issuing from one of the ling the results of the Make dieaster investiwindows on the first floor. The doors were gation. Other financial causes which broken open and the family on that floor of the French bankers and espitalists because Premier Sagasta's cabinet has refused to give assistance to the sleeping on the third floor. The police railroad companies in which French capital rushed upstairs and when they reached the is largely invested and because the Spanish cabinet prefers to raise money in Spain for ita Cuban war expenditure rather than accept the hard terms of the foreign money lenders. All the Madrid papers comment upon the banquet at the American legation in honor

of Senor Bernabe, the new minister to the Poited States, and the significant words of Minister Woodford when he proposed the health of the king and queen regent of Spain. He alluded appropriately to Sepor Bernabe, predicting an excellent official and social welcome in Washington on account of his personal merits and of the recollections of his father, Admiral Pelo, who was minister in 1873. Woodford cencluded by heartily wishing for peace, "always peace," between the two countries.

The latest telegrams from Havana report that the American investigators have found the wreck of the Maine in such a state as to make it almost impossible to advance a decisive opinion as to the cause of the disaster. ARTHUR E. HOUGHTON.

Takes Measures to Be Represented at SPANISH SHIP LEAVES NEW YORK.

Vizence Completes Its Friendly Visit at the Nation's Metropolis.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25 .- The Spanish cruiser Vizcaya, after spending a week in this port on a friendly visit to the United States, got up anchor at 1:40 o'clock this afternoon and started to sea. Its destination is Havana. There were no ceremonics or accidents of any kind connected with the vessel's departure. The fires under the bollers were lighted at daybreak and by 9 o'clock the big vessel was clear of everything and waiting the pleasure of its commander to give the word

At 1:19 o'clock Captain Eulate mounted the flying bridge with the pilot and gave the word to heist the anchor. Few spectators were on the neighboring wharves at the time. The big anchor had hardly been cleared from the mud before the vessel got under way, and by the time it was catted

the Vizcava had stretched for the parrows. The naval tug Nina and the police boat Patrol accompanied the ship as far as Fort Wadsworth, when they saluted and went about. The loud and deep steam whistle of the Vizcaya gave them three long blasts-the marine farewell. Forts Tompkins and Wadsworth soon were left astern and the ship entered the torturous main, at times at full speed, then at half speed, again stopping. Pilot Lockman took no chance. He keenly felt his responsibility.

When the vessel left its anchorage its flags were at half mast for the Maine, and guard of the marine infantry was drawn up in double files aft. It was in full service uniform. Once well outside the Hook, more than a marine league from the shore, the flags were holsted home, but the guard stood ready. Officers in uniform paced the deck. Four miles outside the Hook the pilot boat dropped away from the Spanish vessel, and after an exchange of salutes had been whistled it started for New York. Then the

came lost to view. Later a mere pencil of smoke on the horizon was seen, and it was dios Vizcaya. The report that the Vizcaya will stop at a southern port is inaccurate. It will proeed to Havana and expects to reach there

lizeava got under way, it rounded the Hook

taking a southerly course. For a time its

yellow funnels were visible, then they be-

ceed to Spain. URGE SPAIN TO STRIKE FIRST. Jingo Press in This Country Stirs Up

on Tuesday next. From Havana it may pro-

the Spanish. LONDON, Feb. 25 .- According to a special dispatch from Madrid, reports received there from the United States to the effect that public opinion in the latter country is becoming more excited owing to the impression that the loss of the Maine is not due to an accident, are "restirring popular feeling hero (in Madrid) and the conviction is increasing in ministeria' circles that the worst must be expected." Continuing, the special dispatch "The government has no choice if eays: the United States adopts a threatening attitude, for the prospect of war is popular with all parties, and the more excitable newscapers are already urging the government to take measures to make Spain strike the first and decisive blow."

NORFOLK, Va., Feb. 25 .- The rumor that the government is securing from railway companies estimates of their capacity for bribery investigating committee met today moving troops and munitions of war between and examined Manager Ross of the local Atlantic and gulf ports and the interior is officially denied by Vice President St. John made and answered in connection with of the Scaboard Air Line, whose road is Hanna headquarters in the Nell house when mentioned in the reports. Mr. St. John said today that he is ignorant of any such move Major Dick settled the telephone bill. Not on the part of the War department, and as even names of conversationalists by tele- to contracts for moving troops, he had heard nothing of them.